



# RIDER HANDBOOK

TRANSIBÉRICA ULTRACYCLING

TRANSIBÉRICA.CC

2019 EDITION

BILBAO 01/09/2019





# CONTENT

<i>TRANSIBÉRICA</i>	<i>/4</i>
<i>REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION</i>	<i>/6</i>
<i>CHECKPOINTS</i>	<i>/8</i>
<i>THE RULES</i>	<i>/17</i>
<i>FAQS</i>	<i>/19</i>
<i>INSURANCE</i>	<i>/21</i>
<i>CONTACT</i>	<i>/21</i>
<i>OUR SPONSORS</i>	<i>/22</i>
<b>APPENDIX</b>	<b>RIDER AGREEMENT*</b>

# TRANSIBÉRICA IS THE UNSUPPORTED AND SINGLE STAGE ROAD **CYCLING RACE ACROSS THE IBERIAN PENINSULA**

Following the spirit of bikepacking races, Transibérica is conceived to be a **personal adventure, a collective race.**

Although there will be a final classification this is a **personal ride against the clock, not against other riders.**

Transibérica Ultracycling events are designed from our deep love to cycling, ultradistance cycling, bikepacking, self-sufficiency and all values conveyed through **Mike Hall** and his legacy.

**Transibérica Ultracycling Team wish you a memorable and enjoyable adventure.**



# TRANSIBÉRICA



The **Transibérica** in few words:

- **NON-STOP**

Time only stops when you cross the finish line.

- **NO ROUTE**

There's no official route, just 8 mandatory Checkpoints, so you must organise your own route considering the orography, locations, weather, traditions and making some strategic decisions, as the shorter way is rarely the quickest way.

- **NO SUPPORT**

A support crew is prohibited, although unexpected help en-route is allowed. This implies also the prohibition of booking any kind of services before the start.



# REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION

## FEE

The fee includes:

- **ACCREDITATION**
- **WELCOME PACK**
- **BREVET CARD**
- **OFFICIAL CAP**
- **FINISHER MEDAL**
- **TRACKER RENTAL**
- **LIVE REAL TIME SATELLITE TRACKING**
- **PICTURES TAKEN DURING THE EVENT**
- **OFFICIAL TIME ON OUR WEBSITE**

## REFUNDS POLICY

**Refunds available** until 31/Jan/2019: 50% of entry fee.

No refunds after 31/Jan/2019.

If the race is cancelled or postponed as a result of natural disaster, war, strike, legal interventions, major accidents during the race, or other such causes, Transibérica Ultracycling will strongly effort to reschedule the event. If the rider can not participate on the new date, there will be no refund for him/her.

Once the race has begun, no refund should be offered if it is cancelled, postponed or rerouted due to events of force majeure.

## ACCREDITATION AND BRIEFING

To collect the accreditation you must bring:

- **ID DOCUMENT**
- **SIGNED OFFICIAL RIDER AGREEMENT**
- **TRACKER REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT**

Once the accreditation process is validated the crew will provide you with:

- **BREVET CARD**
- **OFFICIAL CAP**
- **TRACKER**
- **WELCOME PACK**

The **place for the accreditation** will be located in **Bilbao city center**.

The details will be revealed some weeks before the start.

THE ACCREDITATION IS IN THE CITY OF BILBAO ON  
**31/AUG/2019 AT 17H**





# CHECKPOINTS

## TRANSIBÉRICA 2019 COUNTS WITH 8 MANDATORY CHECKPOINTS

There are some **options to validate** the CPs:

- **REGISTRATION BY THE TRACKER**
- **STAMP THE BREVET CARD**
- **PICTURE SHOWING UNEQUIVOCALLY THE POSITION**

To **stamp the Brevet Card is not mandatory**, it's just conceived to register voluntarily the passes for a personal memory, not for an official proof of the ride. **The organization strongly recommends** to validate the CPs taking your own picture, due to a possible tracker malfunction.

Please take in consideration that this is a huge event in terms of distance and time, so unfortunately the organization can't ensure our presence or availability on the CPs when you pass.

START | FINISH **BILBAO**

**GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM**  
**AVDA. ABANDOIBARRA, 2**  
**48009 BILBO, BIZKAIA**

**43°16'04"N | 02°56'04"O**

START: 01/SEP/2019 22:00



The start will include a **neutralized parcours** of 7km from the city center of Bilbao.



**CP#1 COL DE LA PIERRE ST MARTIN  
(1.766M) [FR]**

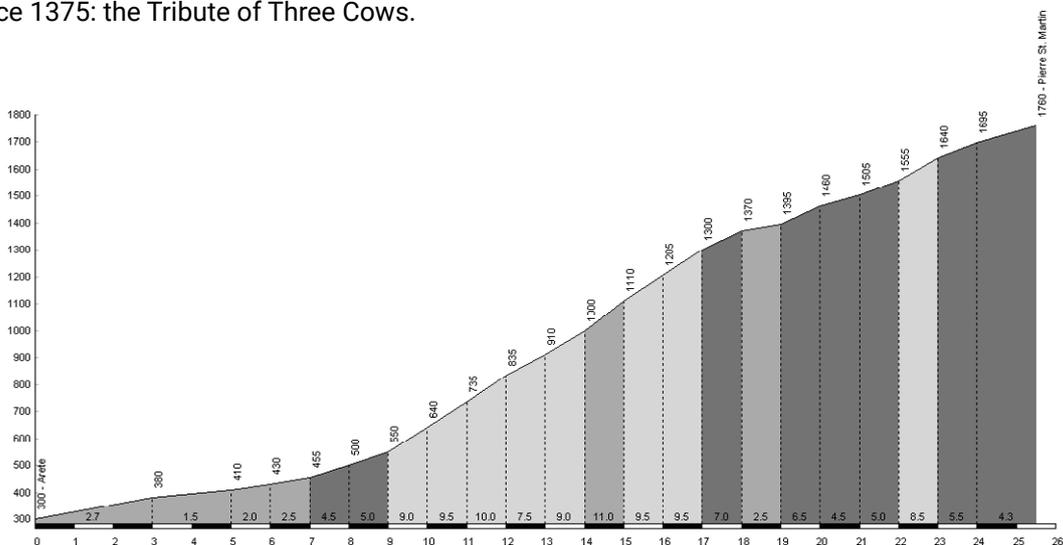
**PARCOUR: ARETTE - COL DE LA PIERRE DE ST. MARTIN**

- **CONTROL 1.1 & START:** 43°05'38"N | 00°42'58"W  
CYCLES TILLOUS - 65 AVENUE MARCEL LOUBENS  
64570 ARETTE, T: +33 5 59 88 90 61
- **CONTROL 1.2 & FINISH:** 42°58'09"N | 00°46'04"W  
COL DE LA PIERRE DE ST. MARTIN



**La Pierre St Martin** is the **highest paved mountain pass** in the **Basque Pyrenees** and is one of the **hardest climbs** in the Pyrenees.

The name is taken from the stone (pierre) called Saint Martin's Stone, that demarcates the natural border between the French department of Pyrénées-Atlantiques and the Spanish region of Navarra. The stone is where the oldest peace international treaty still enforced takes place since 1375: the Tribute of Three Cows.



## CP#2 JAVALAMBRE PEAK (2.020M) [ES]

**40°05'50"N | 01°01'29"W**

The **Javalambre Peak** is the **highest point of the mountain range Sierra de Javalambre**, located at the eastern brand of Iberian System on the border between Valencia and Aragón.



The pines, oaks and rocky scarps dominate the landscape around the summit, largely covered by snow in winter with just a settlement of communication towers and an astronomical observatory on the nearby Pico del Buitre which could be reached after some km gravel climb.

## CP#3 CABO DE GATA [ES]

**PARCOUR: SAN JOSÉ – TORRE DE LA VELA BLANCA**

- **START:** 36°45'42"N | 02°06'32"W  
HOSTAL COSTA RICA - AV. DE SAN JOSÉ 38  
04118 SAN JOSÉ, ALMERÍA, T: + 34 950 380 103
- **FINISH:** 36°43'33"N | 02°10'12"W  
TORRE DE LA VELA BLANCA

The **Cabo de Gata Natural Park** located in the southeast Mediterranean coast is **officially the only place with hot desert climate in mainland Europe**.



The mandatory parcours starts in the village of San José and follows the popular 10km-long gravel road ALP-822 along the coast.

The Natural Park is characterised by volcanic rock formations, wild beaches, abandoned villages and a windswept and barren landscape, making this place unique in the continent.

CP#4 **PICO VELETA**  
(3.384M) [ES]

37°03'22"N | 03°21'57"W

**Pico Veleta** (Veleta Peak) is the **highest paved road in Europe** and one of the **most challenging climbs in world**. The name comes from the arabic word balata (cut, edge), referring to the evident vertiginous north face, with a staggering 500m drop.



THE CONTROL IS ON THE TOP OF PICO VELETA, WHERE A **MANDATORY PICTURE MUST BE TAKEN ON THE TOP AT 3.384M**



The most popular climb, A-395 road, starts from the city of Granada at 738m and reaches the summit after 45km climbing giving an average gradient of 6%. Pavement ends at circa 3.300m but the road continues unpaved until the summit at 3.384m.

There's no parcour but a **recommended point before the climb, Hotel El Guerra** (Ctra.Sierra Nevada Km. 21, 18160 Güejar Sierra, Granada; T 958 48 48 36).

## CP#5 RONDA

[ES]

- **START:** 36°44'28"N | 05°09'57"W  
HOTEL DON MIGUEL – PLAZA DE ESPAÑA 4  
29400 RONDA, MÁLAGA - T 952 87 77 22
- **FINISH:** 36°50'26"N | 05°23'26"W  
ZAHARA DE LA SIERRA

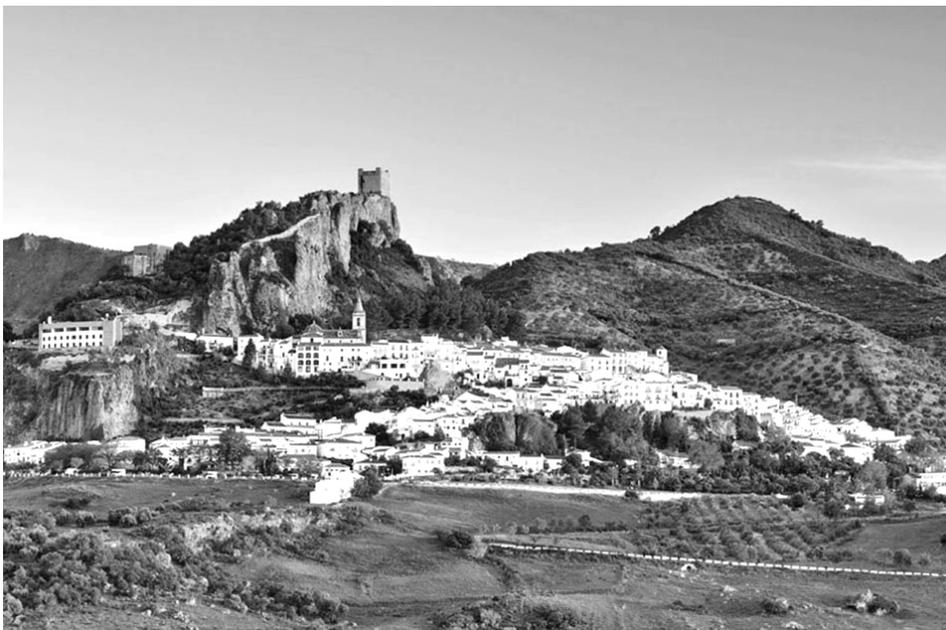


**Ronda** is one of the **most popular villages in Andalusia**, located in the hilly area Serranía de Ronda, surrounded by lush river valleys and sitting above a deep ravine, **El Tajo Canyon**.

Ronda, founded by Celts and conquered by Phoenicians, Romans, Visigoths and Arabs, is dominated by the impressive Puente Nuevo (New Bridge) a 120m-height stone bridge over the Guadalquivir River.

The mandatory parcours connects Ronda with the village of Zahara de la Sierra through the Sierra de Grazalema Natural Park, a karstic region plenty of cavern, native trees and vultures, and known also by its special microclimate: The Sierra de Grazalema is the first barrier that the humid winds from the Atlantic find, making this site the rainiest in Spain.

**The parcours includes** also the **Col of Las Palomas** (1.189m) **and** two of the White Villages of Andalusia, **Grazalema and Zahara de la Sierra**.



## CP#6 ALBUFEIRA [PT]

**37°05'13"N | 08°14'56"W**

Albufeira is located in the Algarve, the southernmost Portuguese region, and is one of the **most popular cities in the south coast of Portugal** due to its beautiful beaches, crystal-clean waters, gastronomic culture and lively nightlife.

The varied past of Albufeira, largely occupied by the Romans, become into an important Arab trading town and destroyed by the 1755 Lisbon Earthquake, can be felt while exploring this **historic city surrounded by beaches and cliffs**.

The Control is located at Praça dos Pescadores, where a **mandatory picture** must be taken from this place.



CP#7 **MONTE FARINHA**  
(947M) [PT]

41°24'59"N | 07°54'56"W



**Monte Farinha** (Flour Mount) is a **prominent mount** at an elevation of 947m in the northern Portuguese district of Vila Real and is the most popular cycling climb in Portugal, with 8,4km of a **serpentine and spiral road** averaging a gradient of 7,2%

On the top is located the Sanctuary Nossa Senhora da Graça with a impressive **360 degree panoramic view** over the nearby mounts, rivers and valleys.



**A mandatory picture showing the Sanctuary must be taken from the top to validate the CP.**





## CP#8 CAÍN DE VALDEÓN

[ES]

*43°12'48"N | 04°54'16"W*

**Caín** is a small mountain village located in the heart of the **Picos de Europa Natural Park**, an extensive hilly area forming part of the Cantabrian Mountains and **considered one of the most beautiful landscapes in the Iberian Peninsula.**

The name of the mountain range, Picos de Europa (Peaks of Europe), comes from the XVI century, as they were the first sight of Europe for the ships coming from America.

The parcours "Ruta del Cares" from Caín de Valdeón until Poncebos is prohibited.

THE ONLY ACCESS TO CAÍN IS A NARROW GORGE ALONG THE  
**CARES RIVER SURROUNDED BY ROCKY  
 MOUNTAIN RIDGES REACHING  
 HEIGHTS OVER 2.600M**

The CP can be validated  
 on **Hostal El Montañero de Caín:**

Travesía del Cares, 3  
 24915 Caín de Valdeón, León  
 +34 987 742 711



# THE RULES

## #1 RIDE SAFELY, RIDE RESPONSIBLY

- 1.1 As the event uses roads open to traffic you must always know, observe and comply with local laws.
- 1.2 Helmet and front+rear lights are mandatory.
- 1.3 It is also a legal requirement to wear a reflective vest when riding at night.
- 1.4 Riding motorways is illegal.
- 1.5 The parcour "Ruta del Cares" from Caín de Valdeón until Poncebos is prohibited.  
The organization strongly recommends you wear bright clothing during the race.

## #2 RIDE UNDER YOUR OWN POWER

- 2.1 Just you and your bike, that's all.
- 2.2 In case of a medical or mechanical emergency use any kind of transport you need and return to the exact point to continue the ride.
- 2.3 Drafting is not allowed in Transibérica. This means you can't explicitly follow any rider or vehicle which could give you an aerodynamic aid (this rule shall not apply during the neutralized start or for pairs category riders).
- 2.4 If for any reason you ride at the same pace as another rider, you must do it side-by-side. But remember this is an individual race and riding in group is not allowed.
- 2.5 Ferries allowed for crossing rivers.

## #3 BE SELF-SUFFICIENT

- 3.1 Transibérica is a bikepacking self-supported competition: Food, drink and belongings must be carried by you or acquired unplanned en-route.
- 3.2 Booking accommodation or any logistic support before the race is not allowed.
- 3.3 Support crew or virtual base-camps is prohibited. Unexpected and unrequested help en-route is allowed.
- 3.4 You are responsible for you own safety and logistics.
- 3.5 The pair is considered as a rider itself, they can share all the resources between themselves but external assistance is not allowed. The pair must ride together the full route. If one of the riders scratches the pair will be considered DNF, but the other rider can keep cycling and be considered Finisher (out of category) if ends at time.

## #4 DESIGN AND FOLLOW YOUR OWN ROUTE

- 4.1 There's no official route. You must ride from the start to the finish visiting all mandatory Checkpoints and segments. This means you decide your own route.

## #5 CONTROL YOUR TRACKER

- 5.1 Satellite tracking is just a service to follow the race online and to determine the final classification: During the event you are fully responsible for ensuring the correct use of it.
- 5.2 Turning off the tracker or long periods of inactivity without reporting to the ICE Mobile or official mail will imply exclusion from the event.
- 5.3 A refundable deposit of 30€ will be required for each tracker at registration against loss or damage.

## **#6 TAKE YOUR TIME, BE ON TIME**

6.1 You have until 17/Sep/2019 at 22:00 to finish the race. That means after this date and time you can't expect any official service or support, but although the race ends your ride can go on...so just relax and enjoy your route.

## **#7 TAKE OUT YOUR OWN INSURANCE FOR THE EVENT**

7.1 The organization won't provide any kind of insurance for the ride.

7.2 You must have valid liability, death, accident and health insurance valid during the event, covering emergency extraction and repatriation insurance.

7.3 Proof of insurance (POI) will be requested during the accreditation process, although it's your full responsibility to ensure its valid.

7.4 Be aware that all liability rests on you. The organization will not held liable for any damage whatsoever that may occur directly and/or indirectly to you or other parties.

## **#8 ACCREDITATION**

8.1 It's mandatory that you bring the following documents for the accreditation: ID document, POI and the signed official rider agreement.

## **#9 RESPECT THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE CREW**

9.1 This project is possible thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of all our volunteers. Please be nice to them, they have been working hard spending their time and effort to support this ride.

9.2 Follow the crew indications, they just will do it just for your safety and the good progress of the event.

## **#10 ACT IN THE SPIRIT OF A BIKEPACKING COMPETITION**

10.1 The crew can impose time penalties for violations which be decided once the event is finished. But this shouldn't happen.

When people ask us how can we ensure riders comply with the rules, we always answer the same: We can't. The honorable agreement is inherent to bikepacking competitions. This can be a fair event, it just depends on you.

# FAQS

## WHAT DO I GET FOR THE FEE?

Registration includes: Accreditation and handbook, welcome pack, brevet card, official cap, finisher medal, SPOT Tracker rental, live real time satellite tracking, official media and official time on our website.

## WHAT KIND OF BIKE SHOULD I RIDE?

The route is mostly paved, although it has some km of gravel. If we had to ride, we would choose a road bike 25/28mm tyres.

## IS THERE ANY OFFICIAL ROUTE?

Transibérica is a free-route event. The riders must ride from the start to the finish line visiting all mandatory Checkpoints and parcours following their own route.

## HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE?

It depends on the rider and the external conditions, but for 3.500km/+50.000m the fastest rider could need around 9/10 days.

## IF THIS IS A RACE WHAT DOES THE WINNER GET?

Following the bikepacking races tradition, there is no price for the winner: the fastest rider wins nothing but the honor of being first.

## CAN MY FAMILY OR FRIENDS CHEER ME EN-ROUTE?

Family members and friends are warmly welcome to Transibérica, but they must do so only at the Start, Finish or the Checkpoints.

## WHAT IF I GET LOST?

Ask local people, use your GPS device or find the route with your mobile...but don't call home or any base-camp. This is self-sufficiency, use your own power and resources to find the right way.

## WHAT IF BREAK MY BIKE?

Try to fix it by yourself. If this is not possible go to a bike shop using any kind of transport, and after the repair go back to the same point you took the transport from.

## IS THERE A MINIMUM AGE TO ENTER?

Yes. You must be at least 18 before the start.

## DO I NEED AN INSURANCE?

You must have valid liability, death, accident and health insurance valid during the event, covering emergency extraction and repatriation insurance.

### WHAT IF I DECIDE TO ABANDON THE RACE?

Unfortunately these are huge events and we can't cover the whole route. As we won't be able to bring you back, you must do it by yourself.

### CAN I BOOK ANY SERVICES BEFORE THE RACE STARTS?

It is prohibited to book services that you will use in the race before the start, this includes accommodation. Everything you need during the race can only be booked by you once the race starts.

### WHAT IF I CAN'T FINISH BEFORE THE OFFICIAL EVENT CLOSURE?

The official end date is 17/Sep/2019 at 22:00, that means after this you cannot expect any official service or support. If this is the case, even if the race ends, the ride can go on...so just relax and enjoy your route.

### ANY CONSIDERATIONS I SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE IBERIAN PENINSULA FOR MY ROUTE?

If we had to use one word to describe the Iberian Peninsula we would choose Diversity:

- **CLIMATE:** In the warmer months in southern and inland areas you'll probably ride exceeding 40°, but at night the temperature could descend to a few degrees above zero. The weather is less harsh in coastal regions, and colder and wetter in North.
- **POPULATION:** It is markedly higher in coastal regions. Considerer for your self-support plan that in some inland regions of the Peninsula you will find the lowest population density in Europe...even lower than in Lapland.
- **OROGRAPHY:** Spain is the second most mountainous country in Europe after Switzerland... despite almost 50% of its Mainland by the Central Plateau.
- **CULTURE:** The Iberian Peninsula has been for centuries the home of many different civilizations such as celts, romans, germanic kingdoms or muslims, so these influences are part of its languages, traditions, gastronomy or architecture.
- **CYCLING:** Secondary road conditions and traffic in Spain, Portugal and Andorra are perfect for cycling, even at night.
- **FOOD & DRINK:** Villages exceeding 200 people usually have a fountain where you can get water. It's also likely there will be bar where you can select options from a daily menu.
- **LANGUAGE:** You should be able to communicate in English in Portugal, Andorra and in coastal regions of Spain.

# INSURANCE

Be aware that Transibérica Ultracycling will not provide any kind of insurance for the ride.

**You must be in possession of death, accident and health insurance valid during the event, covering emergency extraction and repatriation insurance.**

**You must have also a legal liability insurance.**

Please notify your insurance company that Transibérica Ultracycling does not provide any kind of cash or specific prize. Although there will be a final classification this is a personal ride against the clock, not against other riders.

# CONTACT

## TRANSIBÉRICA ULTRACYCLING

[info@transiberica.cc](mailto:info@transiberica.cc)

Carlos Mazón, General Manager and Race Director

[cmazon@transiberica.cc](mailto:cmazon@transiberica.cc)

David Rodríguez, Operations Manager

[drodriguez@transiberica.cc](mailto:droduiguez@transiberica.cc)

ICE Mobile 1: **+34 688 900 757**

ICE Mobile 2: **+34 630 033 434**

Transibérica Ultracycling  
C/Lehendakari Aguirre, 34 11-D 48014 Bilbao, Spain

# OUR SPONSORS



**APIDURA**

Apidura creates ultralight, rackless packing systems, allowing cyclists to unlock their instinct for adventure. We are committed to innovative design and are proud to support the worldwide bikpacking community.



Concept cycling clothing. Made from the heart, worn by the soul.



**DOTWATCHER**

DotWatcher.cc is the home of ultra-endurance racing offering race coverage and exclusive features from around the bikepacking world.

TRANSIBÉRICA ULTRACYCLING THANKS  
OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS  
**WITHOUT WHOM OUR EVENTS  
WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE**

# APPENDIX

# RIDER AGREEMENT

## MANIFESTO

I have read the manual and the rules.

I understand Transibérica is a self-supported bike race and all that it means.

I understand the timeline including enrolment, accreditation, start and time limit.

I understand that the Fee includes: Accreditation, Welcome pack, Brevet card, Official cap, Finisher medal, Tracker rental, Live real time satellite tracking, Pictures and video taken during the event and Official time on our website.

I will bring the following for the Accreditation: ID document, Signed official rider agreement and Tracker refundable deposit.

I will bring the following for the Bike check up: Reflective vest, Lights and Helmet.

I will comply with local laws and all instructions and regulations issued by the organisation.

I give the Transibérica Ultracycling permission to use my name and any photograph, voice or video in any promotional materials or publications. I consent to and authorize in advance such use and waive my rights of privacy in connection therewith.

I will cooperate with the organisation and/or sponsors in terms of media to reach maximum coverage.

I understand Transibérica Ultracycling is the owner of all rights over intellectual property, including logos, pictures and videos.

I will take out valid liability, death, accident and health insurance valid during the event, covering emergency extraction and repatriation insurance.

I agree to all decisions by organisers, including time penalties or ejections.

## LIABILITY WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM

Transibérica is an unsupported event, so I am solely responsible for planning and carrying out my own ride and my own assistance.

I understand I will not find any neighbourhood services or assistance from the organization during the event.

Transibérica Ultracycling is not obliged to provide any race marshals: I will take all required precautionary measures in this event to ensure third parties and my own safety.

I understand there are risks inherent with bike riding. I am voluntarily participating in this event with knowledge of the hazards involved and accept all risks of injury, inconvenience, harm, loss or death.

I understand the event is being conducted on public roads to which third parties (motor vehicles) have access.

I understand, despite the GPS tracker provided, no one necessarily will track my position. I consider myself a competent rider and I am capable of riding this kind of events.

I have consulted my GP who has confirmed that I can ride this event.

I consent to and permit emergency medical treatment in the event of illness or injury, including transportation to a medical facility, and I will be responsible for any and all related costs.

I wish to participate in the Transibérica. In signing this release, I acknowledge that I understand its intent, and I for myself, my heirs and representatives, do hereby agree and will absolve and hold harmless the organisers, volunteers, sponsors, other participants and any other parties connected with this event singularly and collectively, from and against any blame and liability for any injury, harm, loss, inconvenience or any other damage of any kind whatsoever, which may result from or be connected in any way to my participation in the bike event.

## NEXT TO KIN

Name:

Mobile:

Email:

## RIDER AGREEMENT

Rider #:

Name:

Signature:

POWERED BY



BILBAO 01/09/2019



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